

# Boston 'Tea' Party?

## An Editorial

The mass excursion to Boston by Mayor Albert Isen and five of the six councilmen openly invites the question: "Was this trip really necessary?"

The question is worth asking since the transcontinental trip to the American Municipal Association was made at taxpayers expense to the tune of \$4200.

Each of the touring city fathers voted himself travel funds up to \$700. Although only half of that goes for round-trip fare, it still left each council member \$100 a day to squeeze by on.

The sudden burst of generosity in voting themselves expenses for the Boston trip came as quite a surprise.

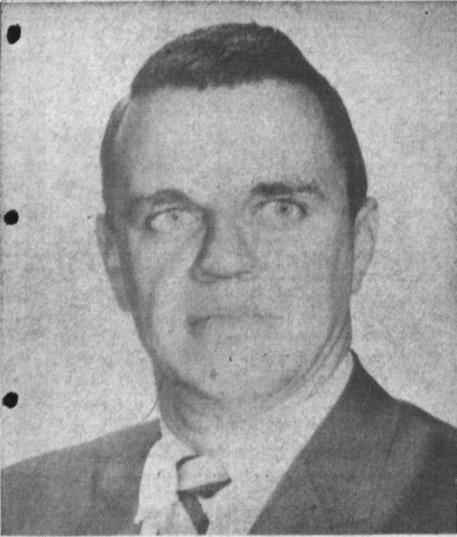
Only a short time ago, councilmen frugally turned down a request to reimburse Planning Commission members for the cost of a dinner (\$3.50) and mileage (about \$2) to attend a

planning congress in El Monte. Mayor Isen denied that the Boston safari was a mere "junket." He claimed that the affair would prove of value to Torrance because our city officials will have learned many pointers from the other officials and speakers at the convention.

Which may be quite true. But probably Torrance could have received the same benefits by sending one or two representatives to the convention instead of the whole flock.

After all, the Mayor has already taken one trip to Florida this year to attend a convention at city expense, and he and others attended meetings in Los Angeles, and San Diego and Sacramento.

It might be suggested that the \$4200 could have been better spent on city improvements more pressing than satisfying the travel bug of city officials.



WILLIAM M. BELDING, New Broadway Manager

## Broadway Appoints Top Officials to Local Store

Broadway Store officials today announced the appointment of William M. Belding as store manager, and William D. Clark as superintendent of the new Broadway-Del Amo Store, currently under construction in Torrance. They will take up their duties at the beginning of February.

Belding, a graduate of Northwestern University, served in the minesweeping branch of the service for nearly five years, on the West Coast, in Europe, and was awarded the Bronze Star for action in the Central Pacific.



William D. Clark

**Civic Leader**

He joined the Broadway Stores in 1952 and has held merchandising and management positions. He is currently manager of the Broadway-Del Amo Store, a member of Kiwanis and Rotary Clubs, is currently on the board of directors of the Downtown YMCA, was founding president of the Palos Verdes Peninsula YMCA and is at present on the board of directors. He is President of the Board of Trustees of St. Luke's Presbyterian Church of Rolling Hills. He is active in the Downtown Business Men's Association, a member of the Los Angeles Athletic Club and the Los Angeles Exchange Club.

Belding lives in Palos Verdes Estates with his wife Jean, and two children, Billy, 13, who is an eighth grader at Chadwick School in Rolling Hills, and Barbara, 9, who is in the fourth grade at Valmonte School in the Palos Verdes Estate. Mrs. Jean Belding is the President of the Garden Section of the Palos Verdes Women's Club, and a Parish Visitor for St. Luke's Church.

**Son of General**

Clark, who is the son of General Mark Clark, is a graduate of West Point Military Academy class of '45. He served with the Occupation Forces in Austria, Italy and Greece from 1945 to 1948. During his service period he received the Distinguished Service Cross, two Silver Stars, and a Bronze Star.

In June 1955 Clark joined the Broadway Stores, where he has served in various capacities and is at present superintendent of the Broadway-Del Amo Store.

Clark lives with his wife Audrey, a professional television and photographic model, and three daughters, Louise, Doran Ann and Dwayne in Alhambra. He plans to move into the vicinity of the new store very soon.

**Offer Reward**

A \$100 reward was offered this week for the return of property stolen from an auto while it was parked on the Bowl-O-Drome lot Nov. 25 between 7 and 8 p.m.

Stolen property included a suitcase containing clothes and television film, and the spare tire.

Finders are asked to call FA 8-7854. No questions will be asked.

# Cat Burglar Strikes in Hollywood Riviera Again

## Regular Fire Drills Cited as Safeguards

Torrance fire and school officials today said they feel confident that a tragedy such as occurred Monday in a Chicago school is not likely to happen here. As the death toll in the Chicago parochial school fire neared the 100 mark, local officials stressed that newer construction and regular fire drills are among the safeguards to protect Torrance youngsters.

"We feel we're in pretty good shape compared to the older Eastern schools," said Fire Marshal Robert Lucas.

He stressed that State law requires each school to hold a fire drill at least once a month. In addition, schools also stage disaster drills.

**Observe Drills**

"We try to observe a drill at each school at least once each semester, and inspect the schools for fire hazards once a year," the fire official explained. Care is taken to remove trash.

Modern construction, at a majority of the schools will slow down the spread of a fire and most schools are of single floor architecture.

Exception to the more modern construction are El Nida and Crenshaw Elementary Schools which use barrack-type wooden structure where fire could spread more rapidly, Lucas acknowledged. But even in these buildings two doors are provided for speedy exit.

**Quick Evacuation**

He said that average time to evacuate a school is two minutes, with a maximum of three minutes noted. Each class knows where to go, and the teachers are instructed to take their class roster with them to make a count so that all student are accounted for.

A bell warning system is used whenever a fire drill is conducted.

Drills are also held at parochial schools, and have been found very good, Lucas said.

"All buildings will burn, but not so rapidly that they can't be evacuated," the fire marshal said.

## Tow Judge's Car Away After It Rolls Down Hill

A Los Angeles Superior Judge thought he had a theft case on his hands over the weekend when he discovered that his auto was missing from its parking place.

But after Judge Clement D. Nye reported his car was stolen from the 500 block on Via la Selva, where he was visiting friends, he learned that police had impounded it.

The reason was that the vehicle had rolled across the street and caused minor damage to the landscaping of Eugene Byrd, of 529 Via la Selva, and Lester Oswald, 525 Via la Selva.

Police concluded that someone had released the brake on Judge Nye's auto, causing it to roll down the incline.

**HARVEY GETS CONTRACT**

Harvey Aluminum of Torrance was awarded a \$50,000 contract for engineering and fabrication by the US Army Ordinance District this week.

## Dorn's Torrance Store Holds Grand Opening Today, Offers Prizes

Grand opening of the new Torrance store of Dorn's House of Miracles, fast growing appliance and television chain, will take place today at 3828 W. Sepulveda Blvd.

During the grand opening celebration, gifts will be presented with all purchases, announced Harvey Abramson, manager of the store, and long time Torrance resident.

The new, modern store, just off Hawthorne Blvd., will feature a wide display of television, refrigerators, washing machines, dryers and hi-fi equipment at money-saving prices, he said.

Harry Dorn, president of the company which was established in 1943 in Los Angeles and now



HER HERO—Debbie Marr, 9, gives kiss to brother, Ronnie, 3, who won the Grand National Race of Champions in Las Vegas and broke speed records in both A and B classes in quarter midget racing.

## Torrance Boy, 9, Wins Midget Race Championship

At the ripe old age of nine, Ronnie Marr has established himself as a speed king in auto racing circles.

Last weekend Ronnie triumphed in the Las Vegas Grand National Champion quarter midget races when he broke records in both the A and B classes against 400 cars.

A veteran of two years behind the wheel of the sleek racer his father, Jim Marr, of 2426 W. 236th Place built in his Marco engineering firm, Ronnie has collected 52 trophies in racing events.

Midget races spell no fear for the boy. His worst experience was on a bicycle when he ran in front of a car and the auto flipped over while the driver tried to avoid striking him.

Ronnie is a real hero to his sister, Debbie, 3, whom he saved when she was about to fall down a steep embankment while on her tricycle. Since that time she has become his trophy girl.

In Las Vegas, the young driver trimmed 28 seconds off the old A-Class record of 7.76 seconds for 120th of a mile, and also shattered the old B record of 7.90 seconds.

## Heliprot Plans Delay Opening of Hospital Bids

Opening of bids for the new \$900,000 Bay Harbor Osteopathic Hospital was postponed until Monday, because of alterations of plans required because of the inclusion of a heliprot.

It will be the first hospital which will have the aerial facility included in the original plans.

The hospital, which will start with a 50-bed capacity, will be located on a six-acre tract at Lomita Blvd. and President Ave., Harbor City.

**ASSOCIATION MEETS**

The North Torrance Civic Improvement Association will hold its general meeting at 8 p.m. today at McManis Hall, 174th and Yukon.

## Athletic Burglar Sought

The elusive "cat" burglar who eluded police search after looting a dozen Hollywood Riviera homes two months ago, was back to his old tricks Tuesday night.

Two residences were entered by the silent thief who evaded capture due to his tremendous physical agility two months ago.

By Wednesday morning two victims reported that their homes had been entered while they slept. Possibility that others were also victimized was held out by police.

A 20-pound stereophonic tape recorder and a purse were stolen from the home of William Deubler, a process engineer of 209 Via Pasqual.

**Back Door**

He said the burglar entered through the back door which might have been left unlocked.

The purse, which contained less than one dollar in change was taken from the kitchen sink, while the recorder was taken from the living room.

The "cat" burglar also struck the home of Gayle N. Smith, of 237 Via Pasqual, an accountant, where he crawled through a kitchen window, slithered across a table and took a purse containing approximately 40 cents, a check book and identification papers. He left through the kitchen door.

Officers who chased the burglar during his October escapade, described him as stocky with a tremendous physical agility.

## Lomitan Burned In Blast

A young Lomita father was taken to Harbor General Hospital in serious condition Sunday evening when ignited gasoline fumes rocked his home at 24330 Allene St.

Rodney Frank Godwin, 24, suffered from second and third degree burns on 25 per cent of his body.

He had been cleaning motorcycle parts on the back porch, and apparently the gasoline fumes were ignited by the pilot light of the refrigerator.

A flash fire roared through the house, causing approximately \$2000 damage, according to county firemen.

His wife, Darlene, 23, grabbed the couple's two children and dragged them outside the house to safety.

## Predict Hotel At Club Site

A large hotel or apartment development will probably rise from the ashes of the gutted Hollywood Riviera Club.

This was the prediction of Cmdr. William Mason, when he addressed the Hollywood Riviera Home Owners Association Monday night.

"City officials are hoping that the site will be used as a county-operated youth center."

## Refusal to Pay Tab Is Costly

Dannie Darwin Smiley, 33, probably had the most expensive meal in his life last Monday morning when he found the tab came to an even 100 bucks.

It wasn't that the original check was too high, it came to only 89 cents, but there was a slight legal complication which cost the Long Beach trailer maker an additional \$90.11.

Smiley was given a choice of paying \$100 in cash or serving 20 days in the county jail after Robert Mason, manager of Huffs Cafe complained to the police that he refused to pay the 89-cent check.

When they booked Smiley, officers said they found \$5.85 in his possession.

## Only 18 Shopping Days Till Christmas

Only 18 days remain until Christmas and Torrance businessmen offer the true but simple advice for the gift hunters: "Don't wait until the last minute to do your shopping or you run the risk of depleted stocks."

That is why today's issue of the Torrance Press is crammed with advertisements of area merchants who offer a dazzling array of gifts ranging from items for the youngest to the oldest.

Downtown Torrance streets have been decorated with Christmas ornaments and the Yuletide spirit will prevail throughout the city.

In the downtown area, huge parking improvements have been made, offering hundreds of spaces on seven free municipal lots in addition to private off-street parking and metered and timed stalls on the streets.

Municipal lots are located on Cravens and El Prado, east of the old city hall; at El Prado and Cabrillo, behind the Civic Auditorium, at Cravens and Sartori and adjacent to the American Legion hall on Border Ave.

Direction signs to make it easier to find the lots are also on order.

And as a measure of protection, and for better traffic direction, additional policemen are on duty in the downtown area.

**HI-FI-TV STEREO APPLIANCES**

# DORN'S

**WORLD'S LARGEST DISCOUNTS**

**GRAND OPENING—Dorn's House of Miracles will hold its grand opening today at its new Torrance store, 3828 W. Sepulveda Blvd. Firm offers huge selection of appliances and television. It will be managed by Harvey Abramson, insert, a Torrance resident for more than 20 years.**